STUDENT WARNING: This course syllabus is from a previous semester archive and serves only as a preparatory reference. Please use this syllabus as a reference only until the professor opens the classroom and you have access to the updated course syllabus. Please do NOT purchase any books or start any work based on this syllabus; this syllabus may NOT be the one that your individual instructor uses for a course that has not yet started. If you need to verify course textbooks, please refer to the online course description through your student portal. This syllabus is proprietary material of APUS.

Course Summary

Course: SOCI422  Title: Sociology of the Law  
Length of Course: 8  
Prerequisites: Credit Hours: 3

Description

Course Description: This course is a study of law, law-making, law-enforcement, and legal systems in social life. Course content focuses on the American legal system from a sociological perspective—its origins, development, and current format, and examines the sources of the legal tradition, the function of legislation in society, and current trends in the social construction of norms. The course investigates the human need for social order and conflict resolution, and how that takes shape in the social world.

Course Scope:

SOCI 422: This is an upper-division sociology course that examines important developments, both theoretical and empirical, in the influence of sociology on the origin, development, and practice of law. The course analyzes both theories and research traditions in the sociology of law. Emphasis is on classical contributions, selected chapters in modern sociology of law readings, and a variety of topics involving law and law-related processes and structures to which theories will be applied. These topics include law and economy, law and politics, law and culture, law and social structure, the legal profession, social control and police, and law and inequality.

Objectives

After completing this course the student will be able to:

- Compare and contrast legal jurisprudence with the sociology of law.  
- Describe the academic domain of the sociology of law.  
- Compare and contrast the works of Max Weber, Emile Durkheim, and Karl Marx in terms of their contributions to the sociology of law.  
- Produce an outline showing how a belief in rational-legal authority impacts behavior toward the law.  
- Describe the influence of religion on the formation of law.  
- Demonstrate knowledge of the concept of hegemony and explain how hegemony makes the law seem legitimate, fair, and just.  
- Assess the main arguments of Critical Race Theory.  
- Provide an overview of Critical Legal Studies.  
- Produce a short essay on how Critical Race Theory socially constructs categories of race.
• Describe the meaning of Intersectionality.
• Evaluate how imprisonment is related to the political power of African-Americans.
• Explain the concept of legal pluralism and offer examples of legal pluralism seen in the United States.
• Evaluate the problems involved with people targeting and offer examples of the consequences of this type of law enforcement.
• Analyze the ways in which race, class, and structural dilemmas faced by policymakers and enforcement agents have led to the selective enforcement of law.
• Analyze the conditions under which the law can usher in real social change.
• Explain why court decisions are more likely to be successful if they are in step with the cultural norms of the day.
• Illustrate your knowledge of social science research methodology and analysis.

Outline

Week 1:

Assignments

1. Forums 1A and 1B Due by end of week 1

Primary Readings

Introduction

Assigned Reading:

(1) Chapter One: Introduction


(3) Week 1 Lesson

Week 2:

Assignments

1. Forum 2
2. Quiz 1

Primary Readings

Types of Societies, Types of Law

Assigned Readings:

(1) Chapter 2: Types of Societies, Types of Law


(3) Week 2 Lesson

Week 3:
Assignments

1. Forum 3
2. Assignment 1: Identifying Research Question and Variables

Primary Readings

**Law in the Everyday, Everywhere**

**Assigned Readings:**
(1) Chapter 3: Law in the Everyday, Everywhere  


(3) Week 3 Lesson

---

**Week 4:**

Assignments

1. Forum 4
2. Quiz 2

Primary Readings

**The Color of Law**

**Assigned Reading:**
(1) Chapter 4: The Color of Law  


(3) Week 4 Lesson

**Week 5:**

Assignments

1. Forum 5
2. Assignment 2: Analyze one peer-reviewed article

Primary Readings

**Many Laws, Many Orders**

**Assigned Reading:**
(1) Chapter 5: Many Laws, Many Orders  


(3) Week 5 Lesson
Week 6:

Assignments
1. Forum 6
2. Quiz 3

Primary Readings

**The Talk versus the Walk of Law**
**Assigned Reading:**
1. Chapter 6: The Talk versus the Walk of Law


3. Week 6 Lesson

Week 7:

Assignments
1. Forums 7
2. Assignment 3: Annotated Bibliography

Primary Readings

**Law and Social Justice: Plus Ca Change**
**Assigned Reading:**


3. Week 7 Lesson

Week 8:

Assignments
1. Forum 8
2. Quiz 4
3. Assignment 4: Analysis of Findings

Primary Readings

**Conclusion**
**Assigned Reading:**
1. Chapter 8: Conclusion

(3) Week 8 Lesson

Evaluation

Quizzes:
This course includes Quizzes, located under the Tests & Quizzes tab in the classroom. Quizzes are designed to facilitate engagement with the course textbook.

Forums:
Participation in classroom dialogue on threaded Forums is required. Forums are scheduled weekly and found in the Forums tab in the classroom. Specific instructions and the grading rubric are located on each Forum.

Assignments:
This course includes Assignments. Instructions and specific grading rubrics are found under the Assignments tab in our classroom.

Grading:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Grade %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Forums</td>
<td>45.00 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forum 1A</td>
<td>1.80 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forum 1B</td>
<td>3.60 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forum 2</td>
<td>3.60 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forum 3</td>
<td>3.60 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forum 4</td>
<td>3.60 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forum 5</td>
<td>3.60 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forum 6</td>
<td>3.60 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forum 7</td>
<td>3.60 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forum 8</td>
<td>18.00 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Paper Assignment</td>
<td>55.00 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Grade %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Identifying Research Question and Variables</td>
<td>6.88 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Analyze One Peer-Reviewed Article</td>
<td>13.75 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annotated Bibliography</td>
<td>13.75 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Analysis of Findings</td>
<td>20.63 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Materials
**Book Title**: Invitation to Law and Society: An Introduction to the Study of Real Law - EBook Available in the APUS Online Library; hard copy not available from the APUS Bookstore, please try other sources.

**Author**: Calavita

**Publication Info**: University of Chicago Press

**ISBN**: 9780226089973

---


**Author**: Mathieu Deflem

**Publication Info**: Cambridge University Press

**ISBN**: 9780521673921

---

**Book Title**: To find the library e-book(s) req’d for your course, please visit http://apus.libguides.com/er.php to locate the eReserve by course #. You must be logged in to eCampus first to access the links.

**Author**: N/A

**Publication Info**: N/A

**ISBN**: N/A

Text: we are using an ebook for this course.


Please visit http://apus.libguides.com/er.php and search by the course number (ex: SOCI422) to access your required resources.

**SOCI422 E-Book Information**

You have the following viewing options for the following course textbook:

Calavita, Invitation to Law and Society: An Introduction to the Study of Real Law

**For example:**

1. You can use the URL link(s)* below;
2. Or, select the URL link(s)* from the Web Resources module in the navigation menu of your classroom, if available.
3. Or, use the links in the library’s online catalog. To find the book from the catalog:
   1. Select the ‘Books and e-Books’ link
   2. If you have not utilized Library e-books, please take a moment to read about the different formats and vendors of our e-books.
   3. When ready, select the ‘Online Book Catalog’ link
   4. Click Continue to advance to the Catalog search page
   5. Search by the book’s title and/or author information to find your e-book most effectively.
   6. Once you bring up the appropriate record, the links to each vendor e-book copy are displayed.
   7. Depending on your needs and the availability of the e-book, you may want to click between all of them to find the copy most suitable for you. Printing and downloading options will vary depending on vendor allowances.
*Each of the URLs gives you different ways to look at the book.

- **Download or Online Reading: EBL**—You can read online, check-out the book to your computer for 1 or 3 days at a time and also print roughly 20% of the content.
  

- **Netlibrary**—you can read directly online. Note, printing is one page at a time and, depending on number of users at any one time, you may be locked out.
  

Another way to view the e-book - this link will bring you to three links for our e-book:  
http://apus.campusguides.com/er.php

If you encounter difficulties viewing the e-book, please visit the HELP/FAQs section of the Online Library. If you still have questions, please contact librarian@apus.edu for assistance.

**Please Note:** Stateside students will not be sent the hard copy version of this text. If you wish to purchase the text, you may do so through our recommended bookstore MBS Direct or the bookseller of your choice.

**Library Readings:**


---

**Course Guidelines**

**Citation and Reference Style**
- Students will follow APA format as the sole citation and reference style used in written assignments submitted.
- Please note that no formal citation style is graded on Forums in the School of Arts & Humanities.

**Tutoring**

- Tutor.com offers online homework help and learning resources by connecting students to certified tutors for one-on-one help. AMU and APU students are eligible for 10 free hours of tutoring provided by APUS. Tutors are available 24/7 unless otherwise noted. Tutor.com also has a SkillCenter Resource Library offering educational resources, worksheets, videos, websites and career help. Accessing these resources does not count against tutoring hours and is also available 24/7. Please visit the APUS Library and search for ‘Tutor’ to create an account.

**Late Assignments**

**School of Arts & Humanities Late Policy**

Students are expected to submit classroom assignments by the posted due date and to complete the course according to the published class schedule. As adults, students, and working professionals, I understand you must manage competing demands on your time. Should you need additional time to complete an assignment, please contact me before the due date so we can discuss the situation and determine an acceptable resolution.

Work posted or submitted after the assignment due date will be reduced by 10% of the potential total score possible for each day late up to a total of five days, including forum posts/replies, quizzes, and assignments. **Beginning on the sixth day late through the end of the course, late work, including forum posts/replies, quizzes, and assignments, will be accepted with a grade reduction of 50% of the potential total score earned.**

**Turn It In**

Assignments are automatically submitted to Turnitin.com within the course. Turnitin.com will analyze an assignment submission and report a similarity score. Your assignment submission is automatically processed through the assignments area of the course when you submit your work.

**Academic Dishonesty**

- Academic Dishonesty incorporates more than plagiarism, which is using the work of others without citation. Academic dishonesty includes any use of content purchased or retrieved from web services such as CourseHero.com or Scribd. Additionally, allowing your work to be placed on such web services is academic dishonesty, as it is enabling the dishonesty of others. The copy and pasting of content from any web page, without citation as a direct quote, is academic dishonesty. When in doubt, do not copy/paste, and always cite.

**University Policies**

**Student Handbook**

- Drop/Withdrawal policy
- Extension Requests
- Academic Probation
- Appeals
- Disability Accommodations
The mission of American Public University System is to provide high quality higher education with emphasis on educating the nation's military and public service communities by offering respected, relevant, accessible, affordable, and student-focused online programs that prepare students for service and leadership in a diverse, global society.

**STUDENT WARNING:** This course syllabus is from a previous semester archive and serves only as a preparatory reference. Please use this syllabus as a reference only until the professor opens the classroom and you have access to the updated course syllabus. Please do NOT purchase any books or start any work based on this syllabus; this syllabus may NOT be the one that your individual instructor uses for a course that has not yet started. If you need to verify course textbooks, please refer to the online course description through your student portal. This syllabus is proprietary material of APUS.